

Observations on Ants in South Carolina (Hym.).

On March 18, the writer noticed ants attending *Toxoptera graminum*. The ants had nests at or near the base of oat plants on which the "green bugs" were feeding. The writer's attention was attracted by the unusual number of ants and nests in the field. The ants were identified as *Iridomyrmex pruinosus* var. *analis*.

Mr. J. A. Berly, of this Division, found a number of long, slender black ants in attendance upon the same species of plant-lice. The ants were *Dorymyrmex pyramicus*, or the common black lion ant.

The writer found *Prenolepis imparis* attending the black elder aphid, *Aphis sambucifolia*, on elder. Mr. G. M. Anderson, of this Division, found the same species of ants in attendance upon the cottony cushion scale, *Icerya purchasi*.

Two species of ants, *Crematogaster lineolata* and *Prenolepis imparis*, were found attending the scale on pine, identified by Mr. E. R. Sasser, U. S. Bureau of Entomology, as *Toumeyella pini*. *Crematogaster lineolata* was also found attending *Aphis brassicae* on an unidentified plant of the mustard family.

Prenolepis imparis were observed swarming on March 19. One peculiar thing that was very noticeable was that spider webs had caught a large number of the winged forms; as many as six or eight were found in the same web.

A remarkably large nest of the small black ant, *Dolichoderus taschenbergi*, var. *atterina*, were found near a path at Clemson College. The nest was built under and around a large clump of broom straw, a

very common weed of waste places, and was so well concealed with particles of straw brought there by the ants that only very close observation revealed its location. There must have been several thousand in the nest, as they covered the ground everywhere. The writer's attention was attracted to this nest by the trail of the ants leading across the path. A large number were observed crawling up pine trees. This genus is recorded in Wheeler's "Ants" as an boreal type. The identifications of the ants in most cases were made by Dr. Wheeler to whom the writer is indebted, while the Aphids were identified by Professor Thomas of this Division. The following species of ants were collected and added to the South Carolina list (see *antea*, page 110): *Crematogaster viciae* subsp. *missouriensis*, *Crematogaster lineolata* var. *lutea*, *Prenolepis* (*Nylanderia*) *parvula*.—M. R. SMITH, Entomological laboratories, Clemson Agricultural College, Clemson College, South Carolina.